

KAPT KONNECTION



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THE KENTUCKY ASSOCIATION
FOR PLAY THERAPY

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PRESIDENT'S LETTER

MUCH HAS HAPPENED since the last newsletter update. We have lost the leadership of President Suzette Turner Clark who has had to make "the toughest decision..." by resigning from the Board. Along with losing Suzette, Secretary Jane Land has resigned. Be assured that our Board remains strong and dedicated. As your President-Elect I have assumed the position of KAPT President 10 months early. I am truly humbled and grateful for the skilled, dedicated and trustworthy group of leaders assembled to help me serve you, our members. Our Treasurer, Tina Hamm (Somerset), remains focused on maintaining the organization's healthy financial status. As our 2 year Member-At-Large, Peggy Hoffman (Louisville) is now diligently handling all organizational CEU needs. The Board has appointed Janet Vessels (Lexington), elected as our 1 year Member-At-Large, to the position of Secretary and Janet will serve the remainder of the existing term. In addition, we have filled Janet's vacated Board position by approving Diane Butler (Covington) to serve the remaining term of the 1 year Member-At-Large and the Board also approved Karen Kurak, from U of L's Art Therapy program, to serve as Student Representative. We are all ready to serve! As I am writing this we have not yet updated the KAPT website with the new Board members' contact information (www.kyplaytherapy.org) but that will soon happen.

JODI CRANE and LIANA LOWENSTEIN, the fantastic speakers at this year's annual conference, were applauded by everyone who made the fortunate choice to attend in March. One evening of basic play therapy history and theory and two days of assessment protocols and treatment techniques, based in well-researched theory, was shared with 140 attendees. We added a few surprises this year and they all were very well received. Wheels are already spinning to ensure next year's conference includes more exciting, value-added opportunities for personal and professional growth. In 2010 our March 11-12 conference venue will be St. Matthews Baptist Church off Cannon Lane in Louisville. Mark your calendars now! More details will be posted on our website in December.

KAPT BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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THE FOUR CORNERS' project has ended its first year with four different events in the "corners" of the state that offered all mental health professionals (members and non-members) opportunities for networking and 1 free CEU for a play therapy related training hour. The Board has decided to continue to support this project and Janet Vessels will provide leadership to local coordinators in the geographical areas of Ashland, Somerset, Paducah, and Covington. Keep watching our website for information about the upcoming expanded events in your area.

WOULD YOU HELP the newly organized KAPT Board make this year the best ever? As a Board we are going to do our part to accomplish this. You can help us. I am asking each member of our association to "talk it up"—tell your colleagues, your friends, your students, your protégés and your mentors about what great organizations APT and KAPT are. Tell them about the resources, the networking, the conferences, the website information, the state-wide trainings, the camaraderie. **Each member get a member to join!** When you've met this goal, let me know about it. Email me! Call me! I want to know! I want to mention you here. (and be sure to tell the person joining to name you as their sponsor so you get your APT Bucks--\$10).

The Board wants to make you aware that Board elections will be done differently for the next cycle as we are trying to get our Board positions staggered to improve continuity. There will be more than the normal number of positions open next cycle because several will have shortened terms to get the staggered elections accomplished. You will hear more about this as nomination time (winter) comes closer. Watch and read E-Blasts to membership if you are interested in becoming part of the KAPT Leadership. If you ARE interested but have limited experience I would suggest that you consider becoming active with a committee first. We will be posting committee descriptions and chairpersons as we update our website so check it out in about a month. The benefits of volunteering with KAPT are noted along with the descriptions. Check it out!!

CHILD CENTERED PLAY THERAPY was the focus of the recent first annual training sponsored by the Appalachian Center for Play Therapy. I was able to attend the conference, planned by Director Jodi Crane, in Somerset. Dr. Garry Landreth shared his wisdom and expertise with attendees for two days. He used a metaphor that I found particularly striking and have recalled several times since then. He asked "What makes the leaves of trees change from green to brilliant orange in the fall?" I searched my brain to bring up the biology lesson from 40+ years ago without much luck. He went on to explain that "the tree cannot change its leaves without perfect conditions surrounding it." This is what we play therapists strive for—to create and maintain the "perfect conditions for change"—as we treat children and families. As I bring this note to a close, I leave you with a simple thought: May you find the wisdom, skills and resources to provide your clients with the "perfect conditions for change!" Jane

Annual Conference "Excitement Is In The Air"

Our Conference Committee has been selected and they are: Tony Rose, Joan Billings, Lisa Hayes, Denise Hatton and Diane VanBlaricom. They are already at work planning the conference to make it the "best ever." The Board has listened to your feedback and has contracted with two presenters who are sure to meet the current needs of Kentucky's play therapists. We will have **Patty Scanlon**, in private practice in Indianapolis, present on the first day; her presentation will be especially suited to those new to play therapy or interested in sharpening their basic skills and knowledge. On the second day author **Nancy Davis** (*Therapeutic Stories That Teach And Heal*) will talk about using metaphors and storytelling in clinical work. It will especially be of interest to advanced play therapists. We are also interested in whether members might like an opportunity to exhibit wares as "non-commercial" vendors—"a small space for a small fee." Wares may or may not be therapy related but acceptance as a member-vendor will be on an invitation ONLY, pre-approved basis. Please let Jane Prouty know right away if you are interested in doing this so that we can decide whether this would be useful to members. Look for more details about these and other exciting conference events in the next KAPT newsletter.

How Can I Get Involved with my State and National Play Therapy Association

There are many features, advantages and benefits to membership in APT/KAPT. I am not here to FAB you. Most of you know the opportunities available with membership. I would like to share some of the ways you may decide to get involved with the State chapter and national organization.

KAPT has several opportunities for cost effective trainings throughout the year. KAPT's Annual Conference is coming up in March. If distance learning is an option for you, you can read the International Journal and go online to the APT Online Learning Center to earn continuing education credit. If you like to conduct trainings, ask a colleague or two to co-lead a play therapy training for you local chapter or organizations of school counselors, social workers, or other professionals who work with children.

There are several positions on KAPT committees including conference, membership/promotions, finance, leadership, and communication. If you would like to contact newly joining play therapists and welcome them to the organization, or write a small article for the news, I would encourage you to participate with us. If you enjoy social or event planning, you may want to consider joining the KAPT conference committee. There are tasks to fit anyone's skill and interest. The more people to pitch in the more the tasks are divided and the better ideas are generated and the organization will be a success.

One of my play therapy colleagues suggested I participate in the APT Leadership Academy. I have always enjoyed doing advisory council and board work especially with youth-focused organizations. I had no idea I would learn a tremendous amount about APT, governance and leadership in general. The Leadership Academy uses the computer as a medium for a "virtual organization" that is somewhat exciting and frustrating at the same time. The six month training is done in the community forum of the APT website with regular posting of facts, challenges and perspectives.

Truth be told, you can get involved in any way you desire. Just ask a Board or committee member for ideas and share your interests with them.

Janet Vessels, M.S. LPCC RPT-S Currently KAPT Secretary/Membership Chair

SANDTRAY WORLDPLAY TRAINING

Sandtray Worldplay Training is happening soon and practically on our doorstep. Dr. Gisela DeDomenico, through her own Vision Quest Training Institute and sponsorship of KAPT is doing her introductory Level One workshop for 5 days and also Level Five for 5 days. Level One and Level Five are scheduled for September 19-23 and 24-28 respectively in a lovely nature setting in eastern Jefferson County. Level One will be small numbers of people allowing for great individual attention and supervision of work from Dr. DeDomenico. Arrangements could perhaps be made to register for the early fee if you are a KAPT member. Members will be emailed a second round of brochures at the time of sending the newsletter as addresses were not available for all at earlier date.



RESOURCE CORNER

PET LOSS - Petloss.com; I'll Always Love You Hans Wilhelm; The Dead Bird Margaret Wise/Brown; Thumpy's Story: A Story of Love and Grief Shared by Thumpy and Bunny Nancy C. Dodge; Saying Goodby to LuLu Corrine Demas; The Tenth Good Thing About Barney Judith Viorst; Goodbye Mitch Ruth Wallace Brodeur.

BOOKS FOR BIRACIAL CHILDREN AND THEIR PARENTS

Black, White, Just Right. Marguerite W. Davol. A beautifully illustrated picture book with rhythmic text. A young girl explains how her parents are different in color, have different tastes in art, food, and pets. And how she, too, is different, but just right.

The Colors of Us. Karen Katz. Very nicely illustrated picture book featuring a 7 year old girl who wants to paint herself. She wants to use brown paint for her skin. But when she and her mother take a walk through the neighborhood, she learns that brown comes in different shades. Through the eyes of a little girl who begins to see her familiar world in a new way, this book celebrates the differences and similarities that connect all people.

Trevor's Story: Growing Up Biracial. Bethany Kandel. Ten-year-old Trevor describes his life at home and at school, his feelings about being the son of a white mother and black father, and what he likes and dislikes about being biracial.

Am I God's Will? Taniyah Nicole Eyer. The author wrote this to answer a classmate's question, "What is it like to be biracial?" She explores the naivete and prejudices of a misunderstanding world.

DUAL MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

I wish to join/renew the Association for Play Therapy, Inc. and the Kentucky Branch.

CATEGORY (check one): Professional (U.S. mental health professional) International (non-U.S. mental health professional) Affiliate (non-mental health professional, full-time student, etc.)

SPONSOR NAME: _____ (person who encouraged you to join)

ANNUAL DUES: APT Dues \$80 plus KAPT Dues \$15 plus voluntary tax-exempt Foundation for Play Therapy contribution \$ _____ = TOTAL _____

APPLICANT: First Name _____ Last Name _____

Degree/Credential _____

SSN (Last 4 digits) _____

Business/Affiliation _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____

ZIP/Postal Code _____

Telephone () _____ Fax () _____

Email _____

Circle One Code: 2—Include in directory and mailing lists acquired by branches, continuing education providers, libraries, affinity programs, etc.;

1—Include only in directory; 0— Do not include or display anywhere

Credit Card Payment VISA / MC Acct # _____ Exp. Date _____

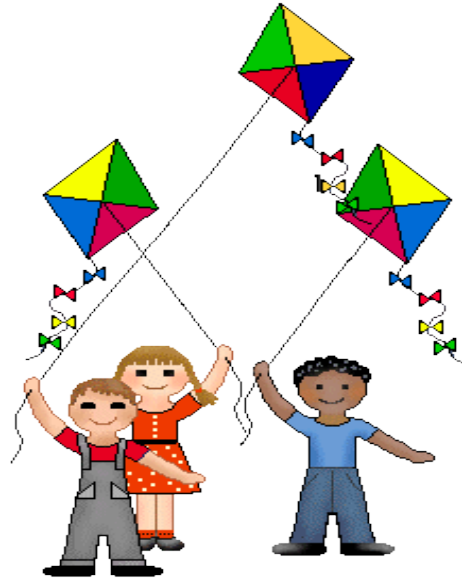
Signature _____

Mail Application with Payment (in US Dollars only) to:

Association for Play Therapy, Inc., 3198 Willow Ave., Suite 110, Clovis, CA 93612 - 559.252.2278 - Fax 559.294.2128 - www.a4pt.org

Jane Prouty, RPT-S, LMFT, LPCC, CADC will be leading a supervision group specifically for licensed professionals who want to achieve status as registered play therapists. She is fully trained in a variety of play methods and approaches and maintains a child-centered play room, a fully outfitted sandtray room with 6 sandtrays (plus 2 sandtrays in other parts of the facility) and a directive play therapy office; a one-way window is available during supervision as needed. The supervision group will meet in her Elizabethtown office once a month for 3-4 hours at a time. For further information please contact her at 270.763.0728.

Ad Paid for by Jane Prouty



CONGRATS TO THE WINNERS

At our 2009 Conference: I. Carter won a free Registration to our 2010 2 day conference, A beautiful handmade sandtray, donated by KAPT member Erica Brown, was taken home By J. Goodin. Kathy Porter won our raffle prize, donated by Lexmark, which was a fantastic Lexmark Printer. We also had many, many lucky winners of prizes donated by the Self Esteem Shop, Images from The Mandala and Discovery Toys.